

RIDOC REVIEW

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Departmental Awards Edition Spring 2010



The annual departmental awards ceremony was held on **Wednesday, February 24th, at 9 a.m.** in the George C. Arnold Conference Center. This edition of the **RIDOC Review** recognizes this year's honorees.

EXEMPLARY SERVICE AWARD Jane Ryan, Human Resources Analyst



Assistant Director Ellen Evans Alexander, Director Wall, and honoree Jane Ryan

Jane Ryan, Human Resources Analyst, was the recipient of the 2009 **Exemplary Service Award**, which honors staff members who best exemplify the qualities that enable the Division of Administration to provide critical support to all departmental operations. Assistant Director of Administration Ellen Evans Alexander presented the award to Ms. Ryan citing her "hard work, willingness to take on complicated tasks involving work force statistics and reports and labor arbitrations." Ms. Ryan was chosen from a qualified pool of nominees. Her nominations noted that Jane "never says no to any request from staff from across the Department." She was chosen for her overall work ethic, quality of work and enthusiasm.

Ms. Ryan also volunteers her time as a member of the Department's Stress Team. She has been with the RIDOC for 22 years.

SUPERVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD Nelson Lefebvre, C.O. Captain John J. Moran Medium Security Facility

Medium Security Captain Nelson Lefebvre (who has since been promoted to Deputy Warden of the High Security Center) was presented with the 2009 **Supervisor of the Year Award**, which recognizes and rewards an outstanding supervisor whose supervision qualities, appearance, professionalism, and esprit de corps are exceptional. In Assistant Director of Institutions and Operations Nancy Bailey's absence, Director Wall presented the award, describing Captain Lefebvre as a highly motivated superior officer who has acquired the respect of staff at all levels as well as the inmate population."

Captain Lefebvre has been with the Department for 27 years and has proven his worth in every assignment. He was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1998 and in 2004 took on leadership in the Moran facility for the NEADS/Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans program. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bryant University.



Capt. Nelson Lefebvre with Director Wall

JOHN J. MORAN AWARD John Schieffelin, Academic Teacher



John Schieffelin accepts his award from Assistant Director Roberta Richman and Director Wall

John Schieffelin, *Academic Teacher*, became the 23rd recipient of the **John J. Moran Award**, which recognizes employee excellence in the Division of Rehabilitative Services. He was selected for his work as a "dynamic teacher who makes the classroom the place to be," and as "one who always puts in the extra effort that defines a quality education."

John's many contributions extend well beyond teaching. He has served on the School Improvement Team and the Curriculum Development Committee. John has represented the Department in statewide professional development initiatives, utilizing his technological expertise in developing lesson plans, forms, and guides which he has freely shared with his colleagues. He also volunteers his time to participate regularly on *Team Gorman* fund raising events.



Assistant Director Roberta Richman,
Director Wall, and honoree Fernando Comas

Fernando Comas, **Probation and Parole Officer**, was the recipient of the 2009 **Community Corrections Award**, which honors a staff member who best exemplifies the mission of Community Corrections and whose qualities include outstanding work performance, dedication, loyalty, and initiative. *Assistant Director of Rehabilitative Services* Roberta Richman presented the award, describing Mr. Comas as someone who “spends countless hours working with clients, their families, and community partners to address clients’ needs, whether they are on your caseload or not.”

P.O. Comas has consistently displayed his dedication and loyalty to the Department during his seven-year career with the RIDOC.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Correctional Officer of the Year Awards recognize and acknowledge outstanding performance of duties and are meant to enhance Correctional Officer appearance, professionalism, morale, and esprit de corps. This year, instead of selecting one recipient, the nominating committee selected several officers from a qualified pool of applicants.



Director Wall and Erin Duffek

Erin Duffek, *Women’s Facilities*

Erin Duffek was presented with a 2009 **Correctional Officer of the Year Award** for her work in the Women’s Facilities. Director Wall presented the award, noting that Officer Duffek’s dedication to her profession has been evidenced in all she has accomplished during the performance of her numerous duties since joining the Department five years ago. Officer Duffek is described by her supervisor, Captain Michael Moore, as “someone who frequently brings inmate and security issues to light and who never complains, regardless of her assignment.”



Director Wall and Michael LaPlume

Michael LaPlume, *Minimum Security*

Michael LaPlume was presented with a 2009 **Correctional Officer of the Year Award** for his work in Minimum Security. In presenting the award, Director Wall noted that Officer LaPlume has spent numerous days off establishing and organizing the Correctional Officer Search and Rescue Team (COSAR) and has served on the Department’s Honor Guard, CERT, and Stress Teams. According to Director Wall, Officer LaPlume’s “strong ethics and moral values, exceptional attitude and appearance have earned him admiration and respect.”

Officer LaPalume is a 13-year veteran of the Rhode Island National Guard and served in Desert Storm. He has been with the RIDOC for ten years.

A large crowd from across all three divisions came out in support of colleagues being honored at this year’s Departmental Awards Ceremony in the Regan Auditorium.



The *RIDOC Review* is published quarterly by the Office of the Director, with occasional special editions. This special edition recognizes 2009 Departmental Awards recipients. Please send suggestions for future topics and feedback to:

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Director Wall and Jason Ditroia

Jason Ditroia, *John J. Moran Medium Security Facility*

Jason Ditroia was presented with a 2009 **Correctional Officer of the Year Award** for his work at the John J. Moran Medium Security Facility. Director Wall presented the award, noting that Officer Ditroia's dedication to his profession has been evidenced in all he has accomplished during the performance of his numerous duties since joining the Department in 1990. Warden David McCauley, in his nomination of Officer Ditroia, notes "Officer Ditroia has become the 'go to' person for all of his superiors." The Warden adds, "He is an officer one would hope new officers would model themselves after and the officer you want to see come through the door when you have an emergency." Officer Ditroia received a letter of commendation for his role in a November 2009 incident when his observations in the Committing Room led to the disclosure of a sexual assault case by

a reluctant inmate with whom he had built a rapport.



Director Wall and Officer Cordeiro

Kyle Cordeiro, *Maximum Security*

Correctional Officer Kyle Cordeiro was presented with a 2009 **Correctional Officer of the Year Award** for his work at Maximum Security. Director Wall presented the award, noting that Officer Cordeiro's dedication to his profession has been evidenced in all he has accomplished during the performance of his numerous duties since joining the Department in 1989. Officer Cordeiro holds the critical position of Clerk in Maximum Security, where he has borne the new responsibilities thrust upon him by the state's fiscal crisis and provided additional documentation without delay. He has excelled as the facility's Training Coordinator and his work in that role has improved the number of staff completing weapons qualifications and attending in-service trainings.

In his letter of nomination Deputy Warden Matthew Kettle wrote, "Officer Cordeiro takes great pride in his daily tasks but is always willing to forsake his duties to assist others when needed. He is a very organized individual whose attention to detail allows other staff to concentrate on the duties associated with accomplishing the Department's mission."



Director Wall commends Derek Hughes and Debra Ann Sabalewski for their heroic actions.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Derek Hughes, *Correctional Officer, John J. Moran Medium Security Facility*,
Debra Ann Sabalewski, *Correctional Officer, Intake Service Center*
Raymond Lee, *Correctional Officer, John J. Moran Medium Security Facility*
(in absentia)

Correctional Officers Derek Hughes, Debra Ann Sabalewski, and Raymond Lee were the recipients of the 2009 **Distinguished Service Awards**, which are given to staff members in the Division of Institutions and Operations who have committed an act of bravery or heroism on or off duty. Director Wall presented the award to Officers Hughes and Sabalewski (Officer Lee was unable to attend) for their heroic efforts on Sunday, June 7th, 2009, when they happened upon the scene of a fatal accident while on break. They provided first responder medical attention to one male and one female victim who had been thrown approximately

20 feet from their Jeep. Using departmental radios, they notified their supervisors of the accident and requested assistance from the Cranston Police and Fire Departments, remaining on the scene to assist with crowd and traffic control when those departments responded. According to Director Wall, their "quick and decisive response to this public emergency is in keeping with the highest expectations and professional standards of the RIDOC."

TEAMWORK AWARD

EMR Project Team

Brenda Abelli, *Nursing Supervisor*

Jose Arias, M.D.

Nicole Aucoin, *Senior Reconciliation Clerk*

Ronald Belanger, *Programmer Analyst*

Gordon Bouchard, *Director, General Nursing Services*

Chris Capp, *Technical Support Specialist*

Joe Cataldo, *Technical Support Specialist*

Dave Cornell, R.N., *Medium Moran*

Tonya Dana, *Supervisor, Medical Records*

Charles Dawson, *Acting Supervising Clinical Psychologist*

William Delgizzo, *Chief, Dental Services*

Fredric Friedman, *Clinical Director Psychologist*

Laurie Greenless, *Dental Assistant*

Joanne Hill, *Associate Director, Financial Resources*

Michelle Lanciaux, *Associate Director, MIS*

Kathryn Manning, *Clinical Social Worker, Maximum*

Pauline Marcussen, *Interdepartmental Project Manager*

Joseph Marocco, *Associate Director, Health Care Services*

Robert Pelletier, *Technical Support Manager*

J.R. Perez, R.N., *Medium I*

Michael Poshkus, M.D., *Former Medical Program Director*

Beth Waters, *Dental Assistant, Medium I*

Dave Wilson, *Technical Support Specialist*

Twenty-three RIDOC staff members were recipients of the 2009 **Teamwork Award**, which honored members of the Electronic Medical Record (EMR) Project Team. Director Wall presented the award to the team members noting, "Your team of dedicated professionals came together to achieve a common goal - to support the quality of health care provided to our patient population with real-time, accurate, and timely information." The work of the team resulted in the implementation of an EMR for the first time in RIDOC history. Director Wall noted, "While there are growing pains with any significant change, thanks to your professionalism, the new system has been wholeheartedly embraced and has transformed our common work in positive ways."



Members of the 2009 Teamwork Award pose with Director Wall



Director Wall makes welcoming remarks



Assistant Directors Alexander and Richman with Director Wall

New Electronic Medical Record Transforms Health Care Services



J.R. Perez, R.N. uses the EMR

It's become a challenge for Health Care Services staff to remember life before the new Electronic Medical Record (EMR), which was up and running in the late fall. It's hard to imagine that when an inmate patient transferred from one building to another, all of his/her medical paperwork had to be collected and physically transported to his/her new facility. It's hard to remember that when an inmate patient arrived to a new facility, if a nurse or doctor had questions about upcoming appointments or wanted to know what was going on health-wise with the inmate, he/she had to look through pages and pages of the paper record. It is mind boggling to think that the typical way for providers to leave updates and notes about inmate patients was to place post-it notes on the paper chart. Now if a provider gets a question about an inmate/patient regarding follow-up appointments at outside facilities, for example, he or she can access that information right at his or her computer. Things like resubmitting orders for medications are now a matter of a few key-strokes, whereas in the days of old, the ordering practitioner would have to write out an order and fax it to the pharmacy.

"This way of working is much more efficient, and a much better use of people's time," notes newly appointed Director of General Nursing Services Gordon Bouchard. "We're not paying people to run between buildings tracking down paper," he continues. "Docs used to have to hand write orders, a nurse would then have to transcribe the orders and fax them to the pharmacy, then wait for two days to match the order against what had come in," he shares.

Bouchard provides an example of a patient who was sent to Rhode Island Hospital at 11 p.m. and within two to three hours was returned to Intake. The staff at Intake, in the pre-EMR days, would have no idea why he had been sent out. The patient's record would still be at Intake while he was at the hospital. Now, facility health care staff can look up the EMR and have the information they need instantly.

Another advantage to the EMR pointed out by Pauline Marcussen, Interdepartmental Project Manager, is the ability of more than one user to access a patient's record simultaneously. Pauline also applauds the fact that physicians can have Virtual Private Network (VPN) access to the EMR from home, meaning they don't have to physically be here in order to look up information about an inmate/patient.

The EMR's reporting features are also a plus. We can now run reports by diagnosis, building, or chronic condition, to give just a few examples. "Now we can see within an instant how many inmates had their vitals checked, how many have had a TB test within the past year, how many tested positive for a specific illness, and who is due for vaccines," notes Marcussen. "This is something we would have had to find by manually going through all medical records." In the past, staff would also have to look through paper records to determine when medications would expire. Now they can run a list of medication expirations and reorder accordingly.

Another thing that can now be easily tracked is volume in our clinics. We can track how many patients have been seen where and by what provider. This enables us to be more efficient in our allocation and scheduling of staff.

Correctional Officer Hospital II J.R. Perez is a *super user* of the EMR and has trained numerous new and current staff on how to utilize the many features of the software. "There was a definite learning curve," Perez notes. "But it's become so much easier." Each member of the Health Care Services staff received 16 hours of training over four weeks when the software was first implemented. One of the many improvements Perez notes is the fact that nurses' notes are now so much easier to read because they are typed into the computer and not hand scribbled in illegible hand writing.

There are about 140 authorized users of the system, with varying levels of access depending on their position and need. Each user has an *in box* where important information about patients is shared. "Things used to fall through the cracks, like lab work might not get transferred with a patient," notes Perez. "Now everything gets documented."

Another advantage over the old paper system is patient confidentiality, according to Marcussen. "We can limit access and I can easily track what a user is doing on the system, how they are using the information – so if there were to be any misuse, I would know about it and have documentation of it." Access is also tied to position. Some users can only view information, some can write, and some can do both.

Processing new inmates has become much more streamlined thanks to the EMR. There is just one nurse doing the intake questionnaire, and it has become much easier to translate information to physicians and to chart. In the past, one chart would have to be stored on each inmate. Now the information about each inmate is all accessible on line.

We are one of the first states with a unified system to go with an EMR, meaning our jail and prisons are all on one complex and

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Director Wall with Shawna Bradshaw and William (Billy) Paquin of the R.I. Dept. of Health

significant and valued contribution to the Department's mission. This year, there were eight recipients in this category.

Nominated by Donna Broccoli, Administrative Officer in Probation and Parole, **Shawna Bradshaw**, *Forensic Scientist with the Department of Health* and **William Paquin**, *Senior Laboratory Technician, Department of Health* were among this year's recipients of the Friends of the Department Awards. Director Wall presented the award for their involvement in the Department's DNA

Friends of the Department Awards honor and recognize individuals from outside the RIDOC's ranks who have made a

collection project since its inception. He noted, "Your efforts have resulted in the collection of more than 11,500 DNA samples and over 60 hits using the CODIS Program." Director Wall added, "You also worked with the Probation and Parole Unit to set up the collection site at the Bernadette Building on the Pastore Complex and helped the RIDOC's Legal team to develop standard operating procedures.

William Sloyer, *Manager, Special Investigations*, and **Andrés Sarmiento**, *Graphic Designer*, both of Amica Mutual Insurance Company were recognized for their role in supporting the Department's public education programs, the *Special Community Outreach Education (SCORE) Program* and the *Zero Fatalities Project*.

The two were nominated by Chief of Information and Public Relations Tracey E. Zeckhausen, who coordinates the two programs. Bill facilitated a corporate contribution to help with reimbursement of transportation costs for students attending the ZFP. He also arranged for the design and printing of a promotional brochure on the SCORE Program to be designed by Amica's in-house Design Department. Andrés was responsible for the professional design of the

SCORE brochure which has become a helpful tool in spreading the word about this important program for high school and middle school youth. When the Department learned that the Family Court could no longer be a partner in the endeavour, Andres patiently and willingly took on the redesign and arranged for the reprinting of the revised brochure.

Four staff members from West Bay Community Action; **Jeanne Gattegno**, **Paul Salera**, **Katie Melone**, and **Lea Spinelli**, were also presented with Friends of the Department Awards for their supportive partnership with the RIDOC's Kent County Adult Probation & Parole Office. That partnership has been instrumental in our ability to provide a more inclusive approach to offender supervision. Says Kent County Probation & Parole Supervisor Christine Imbriglio, who nominated them, "Through this partnership, our staff has developed a better understanding of the basic needs of probationers and the



Director Wall with Jeanne Gattegno, Paul Salera, Katie Melone, and Lea Spinelli of West Bay

role they play in their supervision, and our probationers have benefited by access to the food bank, clothing, community service, or involvement in the GED Program." She goes on, "Clearly West Bay Community Actions wants to make a difference in the community and with our population and shares our vision for effective prisoner reentry."

FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT AWARD

Shawna Bradshaw, *R.I. Department of Health*
William Paquin, *R.I. Department of Health*
Andrés Sarmiento, *Amica Mutual Insurance Co.*
William Sloyer, *Amica Mutual Insurance Co.*
Jeanne Gattegno, *West Bay Community Action*
Katie Melone, *West Bay Community Action*
Paul Salera, *West Bay Community Action*
Lea Spinelli, *West Bay Community Action*

RIDOC in the Community, the Classroom, and Beyond

Information for this page comes from the "Request to Make a Onetime External Presentation" and "Academic Course Notification" forms required of staff per Policy 1.12 Public Presentations.

ADMINISTRATION

Assistant Director Ellen Evans Alexander spoke about the RIDOC's female offenders and employees at URI in April.

Gina Caruolo, Chief of Program Development, taught *Women and the Criminal Justice System* at Roger Williams University during the spring semester.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Chief Inspector Aaron Aldrich presented an overview of the RIDOC's investigative units to the Burrillville Police Department's Citizens' Police Academy in February.

Director A.T. Wall offered remarks at an event held at his alma mater, Yale Law School, titled *Imprisoned* in March. The colloquium explored the issues raised by the incarceration of more than two million people in the U.S. Director Wall became Vice President of the Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) in December. His term will expire in August of 2012. In January, he moderated a session at the Council of State Governments' Justice Center's National Summit on Justice Reinvestment and Public Safety in Washington D.C. titled *Base Programs and Practices on Science and Ensure Quality*.

Tracey E. Zeckhausen, Chief of Information and Public Relations, and **Lisa Santagata, Training Supervisor**, represented the RIDOC at *Career Day* at the Narragansett Pier Middle School in April.

INSTITUTIONS & OPERATIONS

Carole Dwyer, Warden of Minimum and Women's Facilities, spoke to students at Rhode Island College about her policy for transporting pregnant inmates in April.

Correctional Officers Bernardino Costa, Lareto Guglietta, Stephen Massarone, and Michael Rhilinger were commended by Warden James Weedon for their display of correctional professionalism in responding to a three-car accident that occurred adjacent to Maximum Security in February. **John Lopez III, Inspector**, appeared on the *Jim Vincent Show* in January to speak about the Prince Hall Masons, of which he is Deputy Grand Master (see story on page 8).

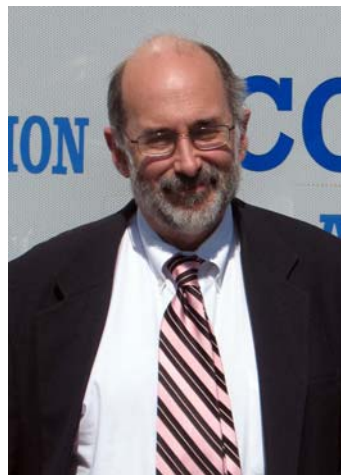
REHABILITATIVE SERVICES

Gordon Bouchard, Director of General Nursing Services, participated in W. Cooley Science Technology High School's Health & Science Fair Night in April, helping students to understand the health and medical field.

Shelley Cortese, Assistant Probation and Parole Administrator, and **Emily Daniels, Probation**



Gordon Bouchard has been promoted to Director of General Nursing Services. He has been with the Department for 15 years.



Michael Fine, M.D., is the RIDOC's new Medical Program Director



Lee Allison, Education Coordinator, and Ralph Orleck, Associate Director of Education attended the Correctional Education Association Leadership summit in March in Annapolis, Md. Their attendance was funded entirely with Federal dollars thanks to a Title I grant. Here, they pose with Dr. Brenda Dann-Messier, Assistant Secretary of Education, U.S. Department of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. Dr. Dann-Messier is from Rhode Island and is the former Director of Dorcas Place.

and Parole Officer and Sharon Pine, Probation and Parole Officer, were invited to speak about batterers' intervention programs at Roger Williams University's Winter Judicial Conference.

Jean Embrey, Adult Probation and Parole Supervisor, has become an adjunct instructor in the Criminal Justice Program at New England Institute of Technology and will teach *Report Writing*.

Michael Fine, M.D., Medical Program Director, spoke about *Aging in Prison* at Rhode Island College on April 28th, as part of a free mini-conference *Under-served Elderly Populations of Rhode Island*, sponsored by the Gerontology Center at RIC. Also in April, he appeared on WJAR Channel 10's News regarding the release of his new book, *Zero Calorie Diet*. On May 25th, he was the subject of a front page article in the *Providence Journal*, now posted on the Department's website under *Media & Community Relations* at www.doc.ri.gov.

Parole Unit Supervisor Lynn Gardiner was invited by the Providence Police Department to speak about the basics of parole in January and March. She, along with **Magdalena Picot, Administrator of Community Confinement**, received a Letter of Commendation from Assistant Director for Rehabilitative Services Roberta Richman for their role in ensuring the safe transfer of all monitoring equipment to over 300 offenders on EMP from the previous vendor to a new vendor in March. She and Parole Officers **Greg Williams** and **George Lang** are now certified instructors for the Municipal Police Academy, which trains every police officer recruit in Rhode Island except for the State Police and the Providence Police. In April, she and Parole Officer **Greg Williams** conducted an informational forum to educate people on the *Community Supervision* law that requires the Parole Unit to supervise 1st and 2nd degree child molesters after they have completed their original sentence.

Micheline Lombardi, Adult Probation and Parole Supervisor, was a Lenten speaker at St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church where she discussed *The Passion of Jesus from a Contemporary Lens*.

Roberta Richman, Assistant Director for Rehabilitative Services spoke about Leadership at the initial session of Leadership Rhode Island at the Alton Jones Campus of the University of Rhode Island in January.

Pauline Marcussen provided an overview of health information technology to a meeting of the American Jail Association in May in Portland, Ore. She specifically shared the RIDOC's experience of going from paper to electronic medical records.

Personnel Notes: Comings and Goings **Promotions, Retirements, & Appointments**

A warm welcome to the following Correctional Officers who graduated with Class 77 and went on line between January 1 and March 31, 2010:

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| SHANE BASILIERE | DONNA MELIKIAN | LEE REBELLO |
| DAWN CARLOW | CARLOS MIRANDA | ANTONIO STEWART |
| JONATHAN CLARK | ROBERT NYSTROM | ANTONIO TIMAS |
| DONALD DEARING | ARLETTE PEGUERO | RENE TORRICO |
| JEFFREY DIXON | CLIVE PORTER | CHANDA WATTS |
| BRIAN LEMME | TERESA RAMOS | |

A warm welcome to the following people who were hired between January 1 and March 31, 2010:

MICHAEL FINE, **MEDICAL PROGRAM DIRECTOR**
 STEVEN FORTIN, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HOSPITAL II**
 MARY SNEAD, **ACADEMIC TEACHER**

Congratulations to the following persons who received promotions between January 1 and March 31, 2010:

JOHN ADAMS, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER CAPTAIN**
 WALTER DUFFY, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER CAPTAIN**
 WALLY FALKOWSKI, **SECURITY SPECIALIST**
 NUNO FIGUEIREDO, **CORRECTIONAL INVESTIGATOR I**
 KATHLEEN LYONS, **RECORDS & ID CAPTAIN**

Congratulations and farewell to the following persons who retired or voluntarily resigned between January 1 and March 31, 2010:

COURTNEY FISKE, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER**
 MATTHEW MCGLOIN, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER**
 ROSEMARY DIGIULIO, **CORRECTIONAL OFFICER HOSPITAL II**



Newly promoted Correctional Investigator Nuno Figueiredo receives his lapel pin from his wife, Vania, while daughter, Mia, looks on



Newly promoted Records & ID Captain Kathleen Lyons



Newly promoted Correctional Officer Captains John Adams and Walter Duffy are congratulated by Director Wall



Mary Snead is new to the Education Unit.



INSPECTOR JOHN LOPEZ'S CHARITABLE WORK WITH THE MASONS

Prior to becoming an Inspector with the RIDOC's Office of Inspection, John Lopez was a police officer in Providence for the early part of his career. Many people around the Department know that he's carried a badge of one sort or another for approximately 40 years but fewer know that for almost as long he has also been actively involved in charitable work as a Mason.

John Lopez III grew up knowing about the Masons because his grandfather was a mason, his uncle still is a mason, and two first cousins were Grand Masters within the organization. John has now risen to the position of Deputy Grand Master – one from the top – of the Rhode Island Prince Hall Masons. The Prince Hall Masons are predominantly minority and started out as an African

American lodge. They are separate from the Rhode Island Masons but the two now recognize one another.

Headquartered at 883 Eddy Street, the Prince Hall Masons try to give back to the urban community. There are approximately 250 Prince Hall Masons in Rhode Island, most hailing from the inner city. The Masons do charitable work within the community, raising money for academic scholarships, providing aide in emergencies and catastrophes, preparing food baskets at Thanksgiving, and adopting a family at Christmas.

John points out that the Masons are not a religious organization but one has to believe in a "Supreme Architect" in order to join. While some think of the Masons as a "secret" organization, that is not the case. "We do have secrets," John shares, but WE are not 'secret.'"

As chair of this year's recruitment drive, John recently appeared on the Jim Vincent show to speak about his organization. Next year, he will be Grand Master, the highest he can go within the organization and equivalent to the president.

Asked why he would dedicate so much of his time to the organization, John says that years ago, while a police officer, he recognized that he needed to stay connected to his roots. Although he presently lives in Cumberland, John sees his involvement with the Masons as "my opportunity to give back to the community."

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2010 NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS' WEEK



Scenes from the annual Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony, one of the events held by the Rhode Island Brotherhood of Correctional Officers in recognition of National Correctional Officers' Week. The weather was picture perfect for this year's ceremony, where Patrick Lynch (above with RIBCO President David Mellon) delivered the keynote address. Fourteen C.O.'s from across the country who lost their lives in 2009 were commemorated; eight who lost their lives in the line of duty and six serving our country in the armed forces. In his remarks, guest speaker AG Patrick Lynch said, "I admired you when I came into office as a young prosecutor, but I admire you far more today."

Remembering Rhode Island's Two Fallen Officers

JAMES MCVAY, KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, APRIL 19, 1930

An account in the *Providence Journal Bulletin* from late April of 1930 begins "Two convicts were killed, one guard was probably fatally wounded, and two other convicts less seriously wounded at the Rhode Island State Prison this afternoon when a Massachusetts carload of desperadoes took advantage of visiting day, distributed guns and turned the place into a shambles." The article later says "The epidemic of prison rioting which has been sweeping the country had taken its Rhode Island toll.

On that day, in a desperate attempt to liberate inmates Thomas V. (*Pretty*) McNeil and John Gilbert (*Whitey*) Miller, two inmates from Massachusetts started a riot at Maximum Security, which at the time was the Rhode Island State Prison. When it was over, lifer Peleg Champlin and thief McNeil were dead. Two others, John Gilbert *Whitey* Miller and Nick Cassasso, were wounded. Though he held on for about five days from the time of the incident, Correctional Officer James (Harry) McVay tragically became the first Correctional Officer in the state's history to be killed in the line of duty. In another article, the incident is described this way. "McVay was attempting to open the gates between the visitors' room and the prisoners' cage when he was struck over the head and staggered to his knees. As he attempted to arise he was shot through the chest."

DONALD PRICE, KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, JUNE 22, 1973

Donald Price was the second Correctional Officer in the state's history to be killed in the line of duty. He had been on the job only three weeks when he was sitting at the officer's desk at about 12:45 a.m. on June 22, 1973. He was engaged in conversation by one inmate while the other came up behind the unsuspecting officer, reached around him and stabbed him deeply in the chest several times with a prison-made knife. The assailants had had virtually no contact with the officer, but one of them was reportedly enraged because his request for plastic surgery had been denied. The seemingly senseless and brutal attack resulted in then Governor Noel calling the legislature into special session. The state had abolished the death penalty in 1852, second only to Michigan, but after this heinous crime, it was reinstated without debate with only four dissenting votes, five days after Officer Price was killed. The prison was declared to be in a state of emergency due to this and other acts of violence occurring at the time. A two-week lockup ensued.

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John likens the Masons to a fraternity. Members do wear "regalia" for their meetings, and most members have a collar and an apron. Whoever presides over the meeting wears a hat and wields a gavel.

Prince Hall was a man of color who, along with 14 other free African men, successfully petitioned a military lodge in Boston for Masonic degrees, becoming the Worshipful Master of African Lodge Number One. He tried unsuccessfully to secure a regular warrant from the Grand Lodge of Boston but wound up obtaining one from the Grand Lodge of England in 1784. They were designated African Lodge Number 459. Since these humble beginnings Prince Hall Masonry (Freemasonry among African Americans) has spread through the United States and the world. The Providence chapter, now known as the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge of the State of Rhode Island, was established in 1858.

John wears a gold Mason ring signifying that he is a 33rd degree Mason, the highest degree one can be in the organization and equivalent to an honorary degree. In order to obtain designated degrees, one must study and demonstrate proficiency and understanding of lessons similar to earning badges in scouting.

There a lot of guys in corrections who are involved with Masons, according to John, but some don't want anyone to know about it. "I've got nothing to hide," he says, obviously proud of this association, as well he should be.

ANTHONY P. TRAVISONO INTAKE SERVICE CENTER DEDICATION

About 80 people -- among them current and former employees and members of the extended Travisono family -- gathered in the lobby of the Intake facility on Thursday, April 22nd, for the dedication of the facility as the Anthony P. Travisono Intake Service Center. Following greetings and remarks by Director Wall, Anthony's oldest child, daughter Elisa Travisono McClure, gave a moving testimony about her dad's long career in corrections and how much his years in Rhode Island meant to him and to the organizations he served. Rep. Deborah Ruggeiro of Jamestown read the bill she sponsored renaming the Intake facility the Anthony P. Travisono Intake Service Center. Anthony's widow, Mrs. Diana Travisono, unveiled a portrait and plaque which now hang in the lobby of the building.

Both Director Wall and Elisa McClure spoke of what a different place the ACI of the 1970's, when Travisono took over as its first director, was from the ACI of today. Times were tough, violence was the norm, and inmates were in control. Anthony Travisono walked into a challenging position and paved the way for future directors by making tough but humane choices necessary to turn things around.

The Anthony P. Travisono Intake Service Center is the largest of the ACI's seven facilities, processing over 18,000 commitments per year. It holds over 1,100 men, all of whom begin their stay at the ACI there and many of whom remain until they are sentenced and then classified. It is a challenging building to manage because of the mixture of crimes represented by the population.



Director Wall speaks to Justice Assistance's Jon Houston prior to the official start of the dedication.



Rep. Deborah Ruggeiro of Jamestown reads the bill she sponsored renaming the facility the Anthony P. Travisono Intake Service Center.



Diana Travisono, widow of the late Anthony P. Travisono, unveils the portrait and plaque she commissioned for the lobby of the Anthony P. Travisono Intake Service Center renamed in her husband's honor.



The oldest of the Travisono children, Elisa McClure, shares a moving tribute to her dad during the dedication ceremony.

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CAREER MILESTONES RECOGNIZED IN MAY CEREMONY

Two hundred RIDOC employees and 21 retirees were recognized in a May 18th Career Awards Ceremony in the George C. Arnold Conference Center for having reached significant anniversaries of their entrance into state service since the last such ceremony.

Those in attendance honored for reaching career milestone were:

10 YEARS

Paula Favino, *Correctional Officer, Women's Facilities*
Michael Patnaude, *Correctional Officer, Minimum Security*
Arthur Robinson, *Probation & Parole Officer*
Erin Robinson *Adult Counselor, Minimum Security*
Matthew Sams, *Correctional Officer, Women's Facilities*

15 YEARS

John Lopez III, *Inspector*
Dorothy Wiencis, *Assistant Administrator, Financial Management*

20 YEARS

Ellen Evans Alexander, *Assistant Director, Administration*
Tilo Angiolilli, *Correctional Officer, Donald Price Facility*
Michele Auger, *Deputy Warden, Maximum Security*
Laura Bard, *Probation & Parole Officer*
Brenda Brodeur, *Administrator, Financial Resources*
John Coleman, *Correctional Officer, Maximum Security*
Randy Denton, *Correctional officer, Donald Price Facility*
Frank Dirissio, *Correctional Officer, Intake Service Center*
Lawrence Johnson, *Correctional Officer, Intake Service Center*
Anne Kernick, *Academic Teacher*
Matthew Kettle, *Deputy Warden, Minimum Security*
Joseph Machado, *Correctional Officer, John J. Moran Facility*
James Mendes, *Correctional Officer, Maximum Security*
Robert Palumbo, Jr., *Correctional Officer, Donald Price Facility*
Ronald Renshaw, *Correctional Officer, High Security*
Antonio Rodrigues, *Senior Maintenance Technician*
Robert Sayles Jr., *Correctional Officer Lieutenant, High Security*
Kenneth Stillson, *Correctional Officer Steward, Women's Division*
Louis Tourony, *Correctional Officer, Intake Service Center*

25 YEARS

Mary-Anne Campbell, *Probation & Parole Officer*
John Carroccia, *Intake Service Center*
Teresa Smith, *Probation & Parole Supervisor*

30 YEARS

Elaine Razzino, *Correctional Officer Hospital*

RETIREES

Twenty-one employees had retired since the last ceremony. Retirees are recognized on the *Comings & Goings* page. A photo of the six who attended is at right.

RIBCO RETIREMENT & AWARDS CEREMONY 2010 HONOREES:

Supervisor of the Year, Lt. Robert Sayles,
High Security Center
Correctional Officer Hospital of the Year, Gail Stanton
Correctional Officer Steward of the Year, Robert Massa
Correctional Officers of the Year,
Steven Johansen, High Security Center
Thomas Donnelly, Intake Service Center
Ronald Meleo, Maximum Security
David Petronelli, Donald Price Facility
Ronald Hagenburg, John J. Moran Facility
Jorge Navedo, Minimum Security
Francisco Morrobel, Women's Facilities



30 Years: Elaine Razzino, C.O. Hospital



25 Years: Teresa Smith, Probation & Parole Supervisor, and Mary-Anne Campbell, Probation & Parole Officer



25 Years: John Carroccia, C.O., Intake Service Center



15 Years: Dorothy Wiencis, Assistant Administrator, Financial Management, and John Lopez III, Inspector,



20 Years: Sergio DeSousarosa, Deputy Warden, Donald Price Medium Security Facility; Matthew Kettle, Deputy Warden, Minimum Security; Michele Auger, Deputy Warden, Maximum Security; Brenda Brodeur, Administrator, Financial Resources; Ellen Evans Alexander, Assistant Director, Administration; Laura Bard, Probation & Parole Officer; Robert Palumbo Jr., C.O., Donald Price Medium Security Facility; Tilo Angiolilli, C.O., Donald Price Medium Security Facility; Anne Kernick, Academic Teacher; Frank Dirissio, C.O., Anthony P. Trivisono Intake Service Center; Lawrence Johnson, C.O., Intake Service Center; Randy Denton, C.O., Donald Price Medium Security Facility; Ronald Renshaw, C.O., High Security Facility; Louis Tourony, C.O., Intake Service Center; Antonio Rodrigues, Senior Maintenance Technician; John Coleman, C.O., Maximum Security; James Mendes, C.O., Maximum Security; Robert Sayles Jr., C.O. Lieutenant, High Security Center; Joseph Machado, C.O., John J. Moran Medium Security Facility; Director A.T. Wall II; Kenneth Stillson, C.O. Steward, Women's Facilities

Retirees (below right):

Director A.T. Wall II;
Glenn Smith, C.O., 20 Years
(represented by his son);
Ida Thornlimb, Medical
Records Clerk, 20 Years;
Timothy Murphy, Associate
Director, Educational Services,
25 Years; Albert Marcotte,
C.O., 29 Years;
David Mercer, C.O., 29 Years;
Thomas Money, C.O.,
32 Years



10 Years: Director A.T. Wall II; Arthur Robinson, Probation & Parole Officer II; Erin Robinson, Adult Counselor, Minimum; Michael Patnaude, C.O., Minimum Security; Matthew Sams, C.O., Women's Facilities; Paula Favino, C.O., Women's Facilities

News from the NEADS Prison Pup Partnership Program



Amazing Grace, seen here in a slide show created by her human partner, Beth Lewis, was the star of a mini-graduation event at Rhode Island College on May 1st. She was trained in RIDOC facilities.



John Moon, NEADS' Director of Communications, is interviewed about the various programs offered by NEADS at the mini-graduation event at Rhode Island College on May 1st.



Grace poses with Rhode Island College President Nancy Carrioulo and a friend.



Nelly, named in honor of then Captain Nelson Lefebvre, was among six RIDOC-trained pups to graduate in March. She is seen here with her human partner, Carson, who has autism. Carson's mom wrote a moving letter about how Nelly has changed her son's and her family's lives for the better.

The **NEADS/Dogs for Deaf and Disabled Americans Program** has been consolidated and is just being offered in the John J. Moran Medium Security Facility where about a dozen dogs are receiving training from inmates who have carefully been selected by the facility Captain to participate as handlers. Capt. Nelson Lefebvre, who had been overseeing the program since its inception, has been promoted to Deputy Warden. Replacing him in that capacity is Capt. Robert Clancy. ~A group of weekend puppy raisers gathered On May 22nd at the home of one of the raisers to recognize Capt. Lefebvre's dedication and support of the program.

~A new assistance dog team celebration was held on Saturday, May 1st, at Rhode Island College to raise awareness of the program's good works in Rhode Island. Amazing **Grace**, trained in both the Donald Price and John. J. Moran facilities, and her human partner, Beth Lewis, were the stars of the event. Beth is a therapist with a local community service provider where she works with children with autism and adults with chemical dependencies. She also teaches students in training to be therapists at the college. Several of her students, clients, and colleagues spoke about the positive impact **Grace** has had on them, knowing intuitively when someone is in particular need of comfort. **Grace** has faced serious health challenges and is about to undergo her fourth joint replacement surgery, but she hasn't let it dampen her spirit.

~Six Rhode Island trained pups graduated in the spring graduation on Sunday, March 2nd, at the Four Points Sheraton in Lominster, Mass. Four more will graduate in the same location on Saturday, June 6th, including **Liberty**, **Mack**, and **Max**, all trained at JJ Moran, and **Raymond**, trained at the Price Facility.

~ Rhode Island trained service dog **Mosby** (Donald Price) will be part of a CBS News special on the *Ministry of Animals*. Mosby is part of the pastoral team at First Baptist Church in Littleton, Mass.



Cranston Fire Chief Gumbley demonstrates the special masks his department tested on Grace at the recent mini-graduation event at Rhode Island College. The Chief's son did a school project on the NEADS Program, and as a result, Grace has become the Cranston Fire Department's mascot.



A slide in the slide show created by her human partner, Beth Lewis, lists the many people involved in Grace's training, including her inmate handlers and weekend puppy raisers.

Continued from page 6

information is accessible between the jail and prisons. Since the vendor, NextGen, has designated Rhode Island as a "premiere site," we are getting inquiries from many states considering implementing the technology. Staff from the Alabama DOC, for instance, visited the RIDOC on April 21st and 22nd, to see the program in action and pick the brains of our staff about how it's working. Joseph Marocco, Associate Director for Health Care Services, figures he has received about 20 calls from different states and counties wanting to ask about our experience with the EMR in the past three months alone. Also in May, Pauline Marcussen was invited to provide an overview of the new technology to sheriffs and staff from jails across the country along with the Information Technology specialist from Portland, Oregon, at the American Jail Association's annual meeting.

It's been about six months since the RIDOC's Health Care Services staff began using the EMR, and most can hardly remember how they did their work without it. "It's getting better and better all the time," says Marcussen, "because the information is becoming more and more complete." It's slightly more labor intensive for physicians to have the EMR, because they have more forms to complete and can't just leave written notes on a chart, but few would argue that the additional time doesn't have huge pay-offs. Newly hired nurses go to about four hours of training with J.R. Perez because even if they come from a place that had an EMR, they need to learn the particulars of the RIDOC's system.

For Pauline Marcussen and Joe Marocco, having the EMR in place is like a dream come true. They've been advocates for this type of technology for well over a decade. Like anything else in state government, it's been a long time in coming, but they still sometimes have to pinch themselves to realize it's indeed a reality. Like all major changes, there was resistance and griping at first, but you'd be hard pressed now to find a Health Care Services staff member who would say they would prefer to go back to things they way they used to be.